

Welcome to
Luther Memorial Church
of the Erie Lutheran Parish



15 SEPTEMBER 2024
The Feast of the Holy Cross
10:30 am

LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

LUTHER MEMORIAL ACADEMY

225 West Tenth Street • Erie, PA 16501 • 814-454-0106

REV. JAY C. MITCHELL, *Pastor*

RON KING

Pastoral Asst. ~ Holy Trinity

THE REV. KAREN LUNDWALL, THE REV. BRIAN MORAN

THE REV. KAREN PARSH, THE REV. GAIL ZACKRISON

Pastors in Residence

MICHELLE THOM

Academy Administrator

BETH KELLER

SARAH PRYLINSKI

Youth and Family Ministry

JAN MACINNES

Care Ministry

WELCOME!

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE!

TOGETHER WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!

+ Everything you need to follow along in worship is included in this bulletin. You are invited to stand and sit—as you are able—as indicated herein.

+ If you have need to **children's** bulletins, coloring pages, crayons, or other supplies they are available on the Welcome Table. You can proceed out the door next to the pulpit and find the Welcome Table near the door.

- Children are always welcome in worship and together we make a joyful noise! However, if you have need, a staffed nursery is available down the stairs across from the Welcome Table.

+ An all-gender and accessible **restroom** is available out the door next to the pulpit, up the ramp, and to the right. Follow signs for “Handicap Bathroom.” Other restrooms are available down the hallway next to Faith Chapel across from the parlor.

+ You do not need to turn off or disconnect here! However, please be mindful of those worshipping around you and turn your phones and devices to silent. Feel free to take pictures of our beautiful sanctuary or post about the sermon. However, we ask that you ask permission before taking any people pictures.

+ We welcome all to worship and to the Table trusting that it is the Holy Spirit that draws us all together. If you would like information about joining the congregation or receiving the Sacraments of the Church, be sure to talk to Pastor Jay after worship (you can usually find him next to the pulpit after the service).

15 SEPTEMBER 2024

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS

Holy Communion • ELW – Setting Three • 10:30

GATHERING – “The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.”

PRELUDE – “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

C. Uehlein, D. Cherwein

Please stand as you are able.

Lift High the Cross

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
 2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
 3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
 4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
 bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
 as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
 praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A Amen.

Please be seated.

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG-AT-HEART

WORD – “God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching and song.”

READING: Numbers 21:4b-9

⁴ From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” ⁶Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

L The Word of the Lord.

A Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 98

ELW 267

Joy to the World

The musical score for 'Joy to the World' is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are written below the staves, with four-part harmony indicated by numbers 1 through 4. The first system covers the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system covers the next two lines.

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heav'n and na - ture sing, and
 sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
 heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

SECOND READING: I Corinthians 1:18-24

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

☐ The Word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to greet the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 12:31-36a

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. ³⁴The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?” ³⁵Jesus said to them, “The light is in you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.” After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jay

Please stand as you are able to proclaim the Word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

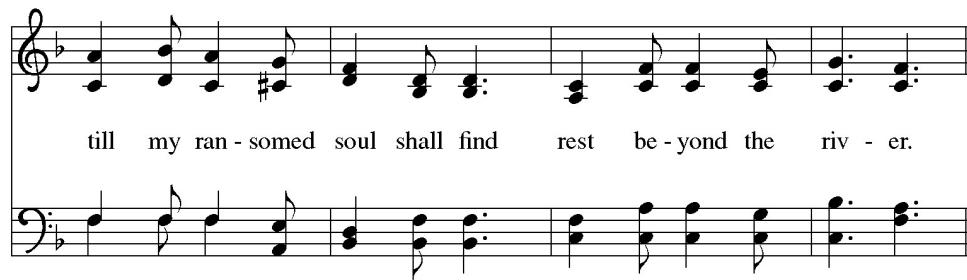
ELW 335

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain
In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

NICENE CREED

A Siblings in Christ, let us confess the faith of the Church:

C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

You may kneel, sit, or stand as is your custom.

- A** United with the great cloud of witnesses throughout the ages, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

- A** For the church. For bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. For chaplains, missionaries, and those who serve in specialized settings. Guide us in the way of the cross, and lead us in paths of faithful service. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A** For the world. For oceans and lakes, rivers and wetlands. For trees and mountains, parks and wildlife refuges. Restore places damaged by fire or flood, windstorm, or earthquake. Shelter your whole creation from harm. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A** For the nations and their leaders. Bring an end to warfare, violence, and injustice. Teach us to live in peace with one another. Lift up those who live under oppression. Watch over those who flee their homes in search of safety and freedom. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A** For those in need. For those yearning for meaning and purpose. For those who lack stable employment or safe housing. For those who grieve, and for those who are ill. Heal their wounds and comfort them in their distress. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A** For this assembly. For Sunday school teachers and our faculty and staff. For students at Luther Memorial Academy. Fill us all with zeal for learning. Energize us to give ourselves away in love for our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A** With thanksgiving, we remember Helena, the mother of Constantine, and all who have gone before us in faith, especially Robert Braendel. Bring us with them through the promise of the holy cross into the hope and joy of the resurrection. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

- A** In the company of your saints we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your eternal mercy and love; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

THE PEACE

- P** The peace of the Lord is with you.

C And also with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL – “God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.”



THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

An offering is received for the ministry of the church. Our offering at Luther Memorial supports our ministry locally, as well as that of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You may make your checks payable to Luther Memorial Church. Additionally, you may visit <https://bit.ly/LMCDonate> or scan the QR Code and scroll to the bottom of the page to give electronically.

VOLUNTARY – “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

W. Held

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

ACS 1063

God of the Fertile Fields

The musical score is written for two voices, Soprano (S1) and Alto (A1), in a two-part setting. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a Soprano line (treble clef) and an Alto line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system includes a two-part setting of the first line of the hymn. The second system continues the two-part setting. The third system continues the two-part setting. The fourth system concludes the two-part setting with a final cadence.

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in

boun - teous hand, come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

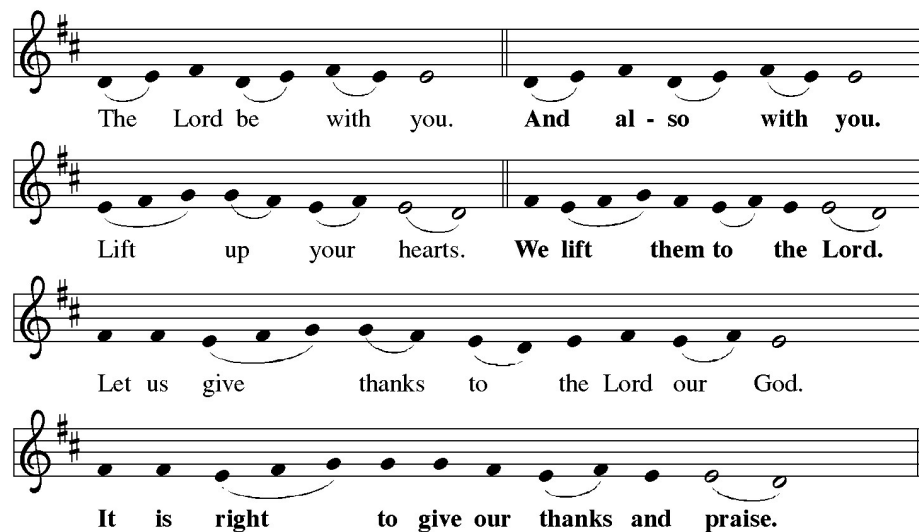
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OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray: Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOG



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

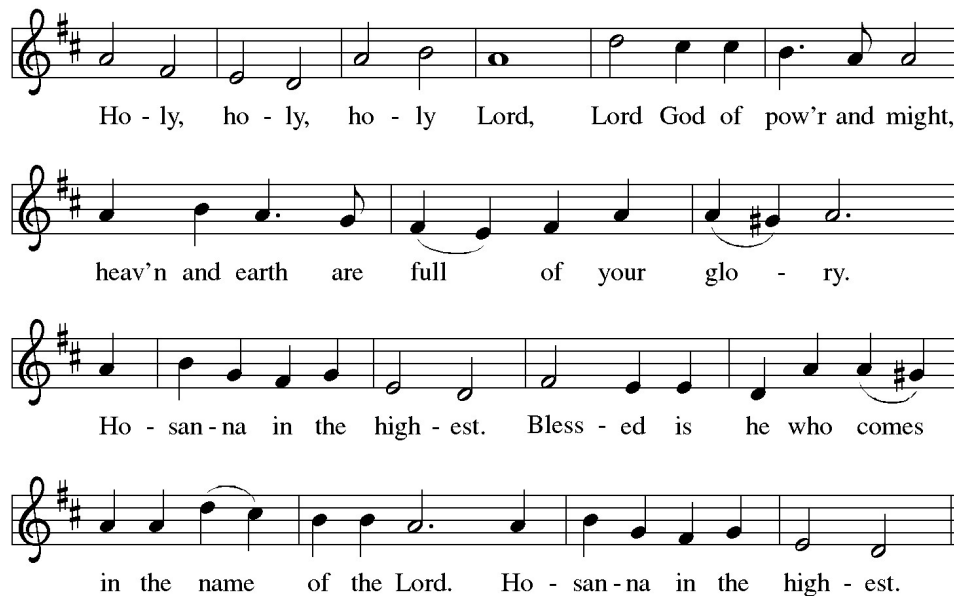
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P *It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...join their unending hymn:*

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE *(based on the hymnody of Martin Luther)*

P Lord God, we praise you, bless you, and adore you. In thanksgiving we bow before you. O loving Father!
You have created all, and you care for your children day and night.

C **Hallelujah!**

P You sent your Son to bring us your salvation. Christ is the source of every grace and blessing, the true paschal lamb and bread of heaven, the very joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us.

C **Hallelujah!**

*On the night in which he was betrayed,
he took bread, and gave thanks,
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.*

☐ We remember Jesus, your Word made flesh, our elder brother, dying on the accursed tree, crushing the power of hell, and rising again victorious from the grave.

☑ **Hallelujah!**

☐ Send your Spirit on this holy feast. Nourish and heal us with the body and blood of our Savior. Bestow on your church your sweetest love, your transcendent comfort, your unity and peace.

☑ **Hallelujah!**

☐ To you, the one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we give our thanks and praise, joining now and forever in loud songs of :

☑ **Hallelujah! Amen.**

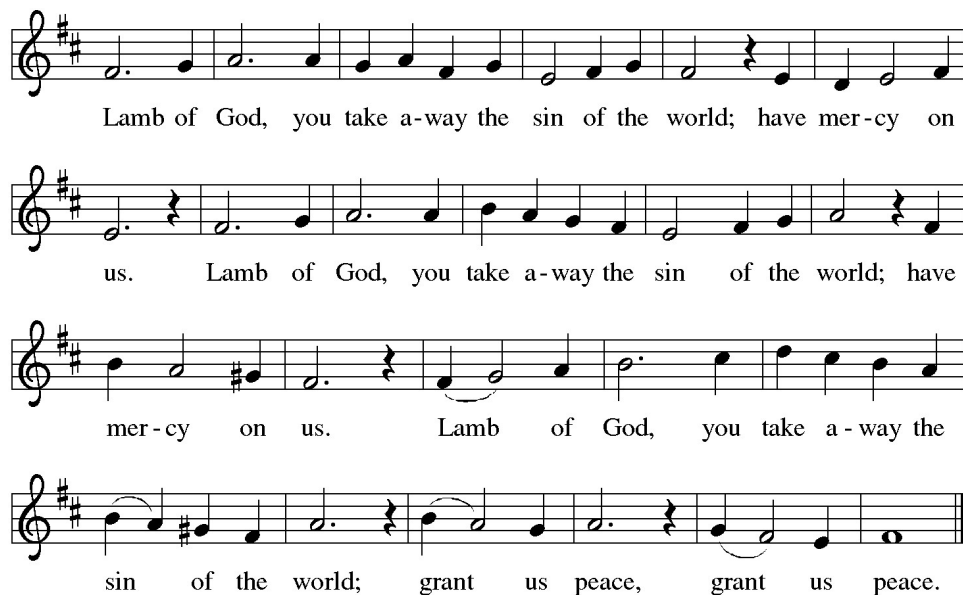


LORD'S PRAYER

☐ Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

☑ **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

☐ Those communing at home: take and eat, the body and blood of Christ given and shed for you.

The congregation is seated.

THE COMMUNION

This is Christ's Table and all Christians are welcome to the feast!

We believe that this is the Body and Blood of Christ for you.

Please come forward from both sides by the center aisle.

Take a small empty cup from the trays at the head of the center aisle.

White grape juice is in pre-filled cups for those who cannot have alcoholized wine.

Baked bread is being used. For those who so desire, gluten-free wafers are available;

please let the pastor know.

Receive the bread in your open palm, then hold your cup steady for the assisting minister to fill.

As you return by the side aisles, please place your empty cup in the tray.

*All are invited to the Meal. If you would like to participate but not to receive the bread and wine,
please cross your arms in front of you for a blessing from the pastor.*

In the Cross of Christ I Glory



1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872
 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;

a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869
 Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

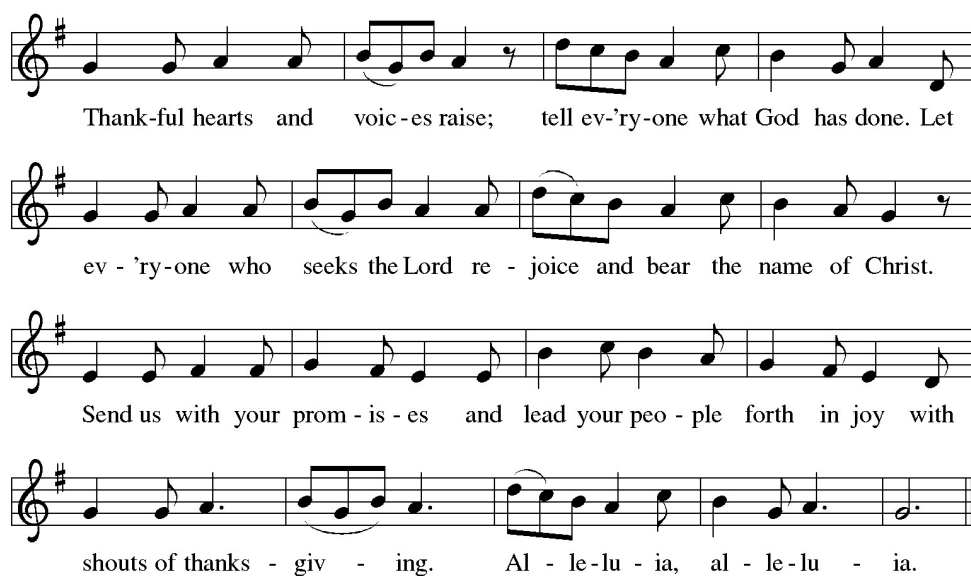
TABLE BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ...and bring you to everlasting life.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Let us pray: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING – “God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

P ...now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Oh, Praise the Gracious Power



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear
2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds
3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,
4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,
5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore

ELW 651



and gath-ers in one house of faith all strang-ers far and near:
and eas-es from their anx-ious clutch the prej-u-dice that blinds:
ob-liv-i-ous to gen-der, wealth, to so-cial rank or place:
a liv-ing tem-ple built on Christ, our rock and cor-ner-stone:
with vi-sions of a world at peace, no lon-ger bled by war:

Refrain



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,
the love, the word, the tide.

Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,
praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

7 Oh, praise the living Christ
with faith's bright songful voice!

Announce the gospel to the world
and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945

Music: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, Carol Doran, b. 1936

Text and music from *New Hymns for the Lectionary*, © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Follow Jesus

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – “Marche-Sortie”

T. Dubois

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— SERVING TODAY —

PRESIDING MINISTER – Pastor Jay Mitchell

TORCH BEARERS – Ellie & Maddie Wertz

ASSISTING MINISTER – Kate Martin

CRUCIFER – Cecilia Montroy

BANNER BEARER – Noah Montroy

BOOK BEARER – Gabe Stroup

COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Ann Flick

LECTOR – Stan Rose

ALTAR GUILD – Jessica Copfer, Mary Daniels

USHERS – Diana Alvaro, Pat Gilbert, Betty Pletz, Liz Stroup

VIDEO STREAMING – Nick Lang



Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our children and grandchildren by Nancy and Rob Benacci.

Front lectern flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our brother, Robert Braendel, on his birthday today by the Braendel family.

We thank Sharon Downey for leading us in our music this morning as we lift our voices in praise.

Today's Events

Join us in parlor following the 10:30 service this morning to visit and enjoy some refreshments. Thank you to our Tuesday W/ELCA Circle for providing this fellowship time.

Confirmation class for 10th grade youth will be held at 11:30 this morning. Classes will continue each Sunday through October 20.

Greeting cards can be found in the information rack located near the parlor area. A large variety of cards that will fit every occasion are available. Youth are offering these cards for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Proceeds will benefit our youth.

Worship Matters

This week we are using the Nicene Creed. There is a reason and purpose for which creed we use on which Sunday. On festivals of Jesus and central celebrations of the Church, we use the Nicene Creed reminding us of what **"We"** believe. When we use the Apostles' Creed, we remember "the faith into which we are baptized." As the oldest of the Church's creeds, this is the creed we use at baptism, confirmation, and funerals as well as throughout the year when we are focusing on baptismal themes.

But perhaps this morning's version of the Nicene Creed tripped you up a little bit. There is a phrase that is not present in our recitation of the creed this morning. "...and the Son." When we confess our faith that the Holy Spirit "proceeds from the Father *and the Son*," we are continuing to take a side in a debate of the Church that dates back over a thousand years! This phrase "and the Son" is known as the *filioque* (FIL-ee-OH-kway) clause. That's Latin for "and the Son." Since 1014, these three words have been the fundamental split between Eastern (the Orthodox Church) and Western Christianity (Latin Rite: Roman Catholic and all subsidiaries like Lutheran). It is a question at the very heart of the Trinity: While all three persons are co-equal and co-eternal, is the Holy Spirit a product of just God the Father or God the Father in relationship with God the Son? While this may seem trite today because we don't think of our faith in quite the same way, this was life-and-death in the Church of the 11th century.

This year, leaders and theologians from the Lutheran World Federation (of which we are a part) met with leaders and theologians from the Orthodox Church to continue conversations about shared faith and ministry. From that meeting, the Lutheran World Federation and the Orthodox Church agreed that the *filioque clause* was a later addition to the Creed, not necessarily proceeding from any ecumenical council, and had done more harm than good in trying to explain the mystery that is the Trinity. As such, the Lutheran World Federation encouraged its member churches to consider whether or not to continue using that phrase. This morning, we are not using this phrase specifically because we are celebrating a central tenet of the Church—East and West—that predates all of the ecumenical councils that wrote our creeds. We are celebrating the Cross and also the foundation of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem which is a church building shared by Christians of all rites, East and West, Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant. Living into that shared celebration, we are respecting our siblings of the Eastern Church in refraining from this phrase.

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Forum is coming! Beginning Sunday, 6 October, Adult Forum will gather in the Library between the services (*about* 9:15 until *about* 10:15). Our first session will be "Approaching the Bible." This will be a Bible Study *about* studying the Bible!

Christian Education

Book Group, Paging Through with Pastor Jay, will meet the second Monday of odd months at 6:00pm in the parlor. Our next gathering will be Monday, November 11, as we begin the book *Lamb*.

Second Sunday Salons, a time to visit and discuss various topics will begin Sunday, October 13 from 9:15-10:30am. Please join us in the parlor for conversation and refreshments.

Brown Bag Bible will gather each Wednesday in the parlor at 12:00 noon for Bible Study and discussion. You are invited to bring lunch for yourself. Our first topic; *How Did THAT Get in My Bible?!*

B.A.D. (Bible After Dark) gathers at the Brewerie the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm. Join together with Lutherans from around Erie as we discuss the book **Context** by Josh Scott. Copies of the book may be purchased from the church office for \$12. Feel free to purchase an adult beverage as we chat.

Opportunities for Fellowship

Come and join us for an escape from reality. Your cares will be left behind after a morning of laughter and conversation with the Magic Fingers Grace Group. Join us for knitting and crocheting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month; September 24 from 10:00am– 12:00 noon. Please contact Norma, in the church office, or Jan MacInnes if you are in need of more yarn or have any questions.

Have fun with the OWLS at **Game Day** on Wednesday, September 18 in our parlor from 11:00am-1:30pm. A pizza lunch will be provided. Visit, laugh and enjoy the time playing some favorite games. If you have a favorite game, please bring it along to share. Please RSVP to Jan MacInnes or the church office by Monday, September 9.

Dinner with Our Flock will gather on the third Wednesday of the month September-December beginning September 18. Join us at 5:30pm for dinner in fellowship hall. The main dish will be provided, please bring a dish to share. Get your mid-week boost with dinner, a short Bible lesson and craft.

Family scavenger hunt will be held Sunday, October 6 from 1:00-5:00pm. Have a super fun afternoon solving clues and arriving at your surprise destination. Contact the church office or see Beth Keller or Sarah Prylinski to sign up.

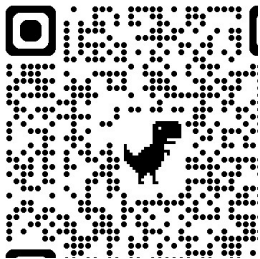
Join us for Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 6 at 11:30am in fellowship hall. A delicious main course of bratwurst & sauerkraut, hotdogs and macaroni & cheese will be provided, as well as beverages. All are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Let's raise a cold glass of beer and celebrate Oktoberfest. Please RSVP to the church office by Sunday, September 29.

Presque Isle ProMusica Oktoberfest Concert & Picnic

On October 6, at 4:00pm, the Presque Isle ProMusica, our orchestra-in-residence, will present *Oktoberfest*, a concert and picnic celebrating the harvest and the beautiful days of fall. The music will be festive strains from Germany and Austria (dancing will be permitted), and the food - yes, there will be food! - will be the traditional "brats and beer" available for purchase, supplemented by sauerkraut, other beverages and ice cream, provided either by local vendors or the PIP itself.

The music, of course, will be free as always. So pack up your lawn chairs or blankets for a jolly time in our green space (indoors if it rains, and we do have extra chairs for wherever), and bring along as many friends as you can, for the PIP's farewell to summer and welcome to the glorious days of autumn. A good time will be had by all - we promise!

Outreach



Crop Walk will take place on Sunday, September 29. Luther Memorial (both Church **and** Academy) will have a shared Team this year as part of LMA Sunday celebrations. Everyone is encouraged to walk and make a difference in our community to help fight hunger. If you are unable to walk, consider making a donation to someone who is walking. A donation packet is available from Pastor Jay or the church office. Registration begins at 1:00pm with the Walk beginning at 2:00pm.

Julia Hospice House

All are invited to enjoy a fun evening out at Julia's Cash Bash to support building Julia House, Erie's first hospice house and palliative care clinic. Join us Saturday, October 5 from 5:00-9:00pm at St. Francis Ushers Club, 9085 Main Street, McKean. Your \$25 ticket includes a full dinner, dessert, coffee, soda and chances to win a prize of \$1,000, \$500, or \$100. Live Music with Jack Stevenson, a silent auction, basket raffle and cash games will add to all the fun. See Linda Graffius, Cathy Beck or Cheryl Brown for tickets.

Items to Note

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Jay either at the church (814-454-0106 x. 227) or, if not, on his personal phone (267-549-9858). If you are unable to reach him and need a response quickly, please contact our church office at 454-0106, ext. 221 during weekday business hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm to speak with Norma. Thank you.

CALENDAR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 3:00pm School Board

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18	11:00am	OWLS Game Day
	5:30pm	Dinner With Our Flock

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	1:00pm	Grief Group
	5:30pm	Handbells
	6:30pm	Choir

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21	10:00am	Quilting Group
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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2024
THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Worship services at 8:15 in Faith Chapel and 10:30am in the main church.

Confirmation Class begins at 11:30am.

Congregational Life will meet at 11:30am.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Assisting Minister	8:15am	Niambi Mercado
	10:30am	Linda Swanson
Communion Assistant (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	Elaine Kern
Lector (<i>1 needed</i>)	10:30am	
Altar Guild	8:15am	Donna Sedelmyer
	10:30am	Martha & Tom Klomp
Greeter	8:15am	Vicky Blasco
	10:30am	(<i>1 needed</i>)
Video Streaming	10:30am	John Bartlett
Counters	10:30am	Mike Hedlund, Liz Stroup
Ushers (<i>4 needed</i>)	10:30am	Sharon Burke, Betty Pletz

— PRAYER LIST —

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:			
Our Members:			
Lois Fobes	Dave Parsh	Marilyn Rositer	Cathy Beck & Jim
Diane & Bob Giannelli	Winnie Lyons	Ron King	Virginia Long
Matt, Jessica Kinzig & family	Pat Gilbert	Rose-Marie Rose	
Friends and Family:			
Kate Collins & family	Lily	Marlo	Jenn Eddy
Jessica Bulos Grubb	Sherry Johnson	Heather Keaster	Curtis Krick
Nikki & Ayden Moyer & family	Stephanie Volland	Janice Carpenter	Jonah Allgeier
Jean Coburn	Tony B.	Betty M.	Betty Peters
Connie Haibach & family	Kevin D	Bernadette Mulder	Steve Sensor
Jamal Lemmons	Jim Roberts	Cherly Runstedler	Jerry
Andy Zimmerman	Norma Lynch	Dale Dannhaus	
Grief:			
Randy Hessinger family			
Our Military Service Men & Women:			
Lt. Col. Matt Anderson	Michael Stickner	Andrew Watson	Alli Brown
Ben Dixon	Mark Collins		

Readings and Commemorations This Week

September 16 – Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, 258 – Psalm 23; I Peter 5:1-4, 10-11; John 10:11-6 -- *Cyprian served as a bishop during a time of great persecution of Christians. He insisted on receiving back those who had left the faith under duress. He also provided medical care during a severe epidemic.*

September 17 – Hildegard von Bingen, Abbess of Bingen, 1179 – Sirach 43:1-2, 6-7, 12, 27-28; Psalm 104:25-34; John 3:16-21 -- *A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reproved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.*

September 18 – Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, 1961 – Micah 4:1-5; Psalm 85; Ephesians 2:13-18; Matthew 5:1-9 -- *A Swedish diplomat, Hammarskjöld served as the second Secretary General of the United Nations until his death in a plane crash while trying to negotiate peace in present-day Zambia. His journal, published as Markings, revealed the depth of his Christian faith.*

September 19 – Psalm 54; Judges 6:1-10; I Corinthians 2:1-5

September 20 – Nelson Trout, bishop, 1996 – Ezekiel 34:11-16; Psalm 84; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 21:15-17 -- *A native of Ohio, Trout served parishes in several parts of the United States before being elected bishop of the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church, the first African American Lutheran to serve in such a capacity.*

September 21 – MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST – Ezekiel 2:8-3:11; Psalm 119:33-40; Ephesians 2:4-10; Matthew 9:9-13 -- *Matthew (or Levi) was a tax collector in Capernaum for the Roman government. Tax collectors were frequently despised for dishonesty and for assisting the occupiers. Jesus nevertheless showed love for them, and chose Matthew to be a disciple.*